

ZU 1 (ISSN 1079-1426) January, 1995. Published by MU PRESS, 5014-D Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105. "Leandra: Sin And Salvation" @1994 Jay Shell All rights reserved. No material herein may be copied or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without prior consent of the creator (excepting purposes of review). This is a work of fiction. Any similarity between names, characters, and/or persons herein and any persons living or dead is purely coincidental. And we're off to a lion start! First Print-MU Pubs #238 ing.

Welcome back — to the first issue of ZU, the new anthropomorphic anthology from MU Pressi

That's right. We said, "Welcome back"! A couple of years back MU published a one-shot version of **ZU** that was giant-sized and priced accordingly, and featured a large number of talented 'morph creators, such as Tracy Kazaleh, Tom Staszer, Terrie Smith, and the late Deal Whitley. The book was popular enough among the fans and eventually sold out. Now that we've had a chance to look things over more carefully and make appropriate plans, we decided to bring ZU back as a regular bimonthly series!

(For those who want to avoid numbering confusions in their collections, consider the original ZU as having been our zero issue.)

Starting off this new series is a full-length original story by Jay Shell, called Leandra: Sin And Salvation. The story has run previously in the ROWRBRAZZLE APA (Amateur Press Association) and in YARF!, but Jay has added a few new pages and a painted cover to make the story complete. Rather than break this tale into two parts, we decided to run it in it's entirety for **ZU**'s premiere. Hereafter, each issue will feature at least two stories each issue, and will spotlight at least one ongoing serial.

ture several talented people, old | Gus Norman. Adults only!! favorites and newcomers, who'll be bringing life to their own visions of anthropomorphic fantasy. The tales will run the gamut from science-fiction to romance, from whimsy to slapstick, and from adventure to satire. And don't be surprised if you see an occasional visit from other MU titles from time to time!

awaits... enjoy!!

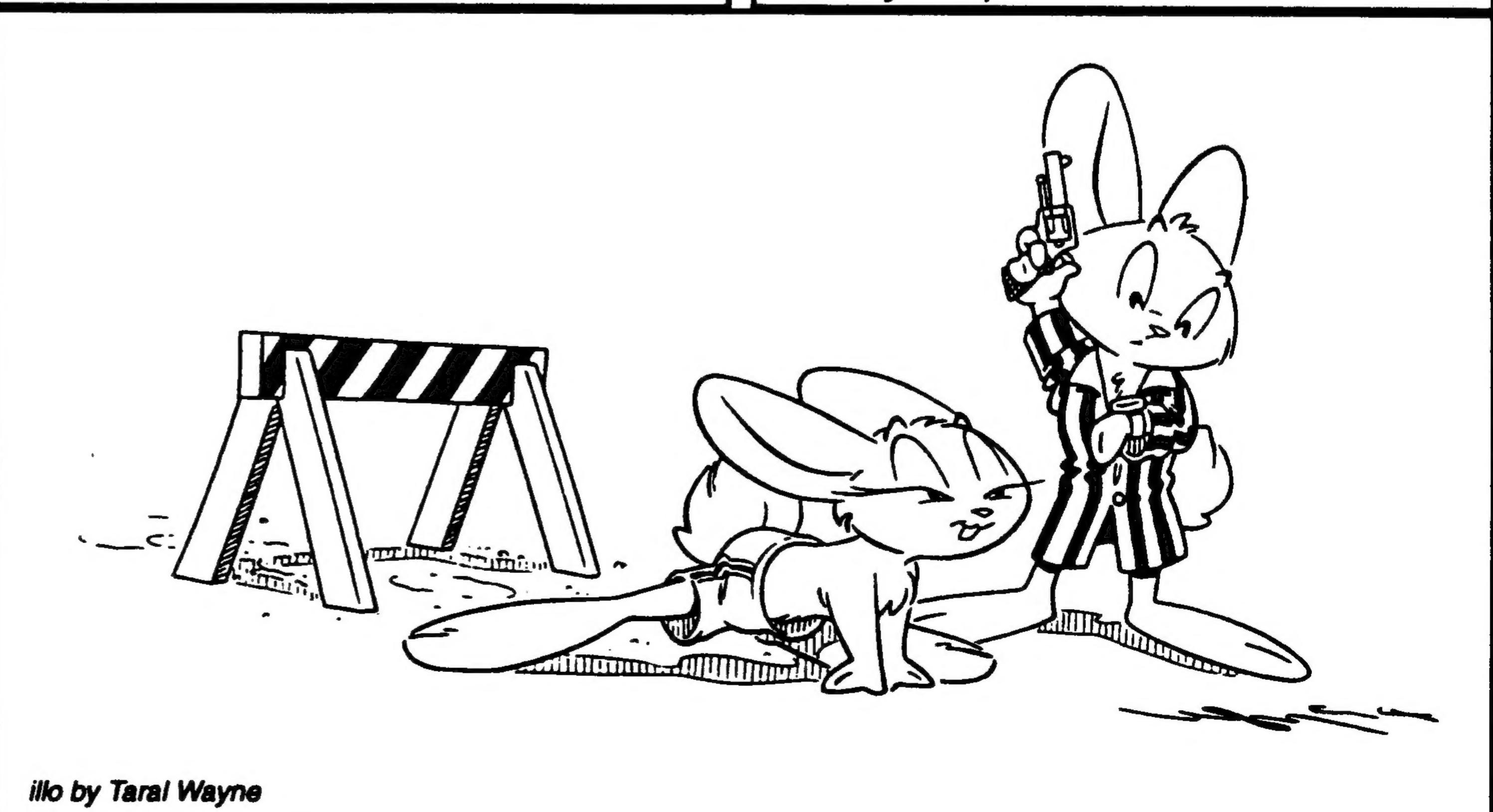


In just two months! (That's right; we'll be right back in just sixty days!) ...we return with mercenary adventure by newcomer Darko Macan, and an examination of fuzzy thinking by Will Fortier.

## Also on sale this month:

Wild Kingdom #3 (For those of you discerning readers who are 21 and over) New X-rated furry tales In the future we will fea- | by Waverly Pierre, Ed Garcia, and

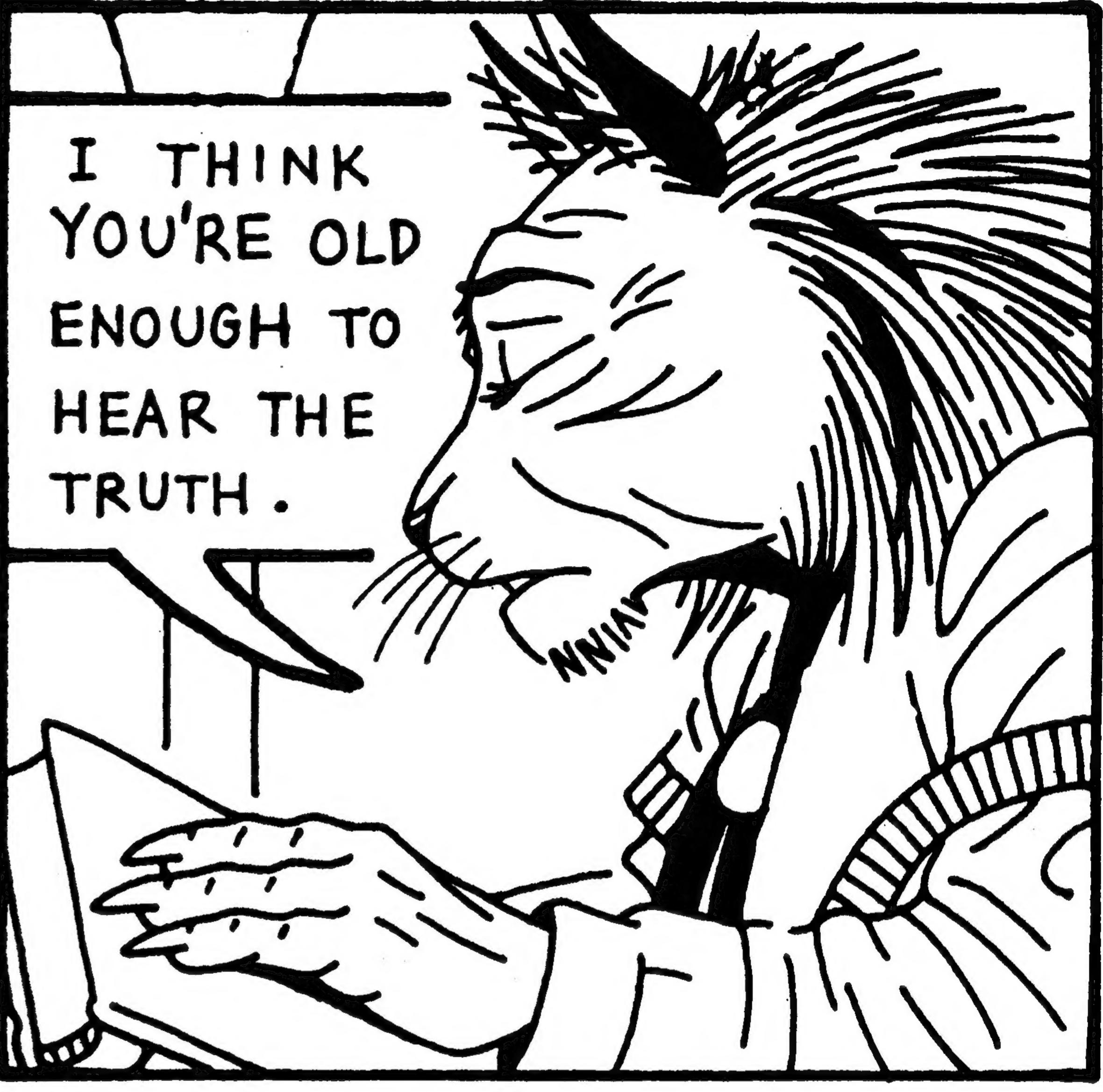
Felicia: Melari's Wish Prop your door open! Better yet, read and enjoy this extra long graphic novel about the intrigues of a sorceress who is on a search for an ancient, magical heirloom. (But you already And now, our first issue | have this in your bag with this book, don't you?)

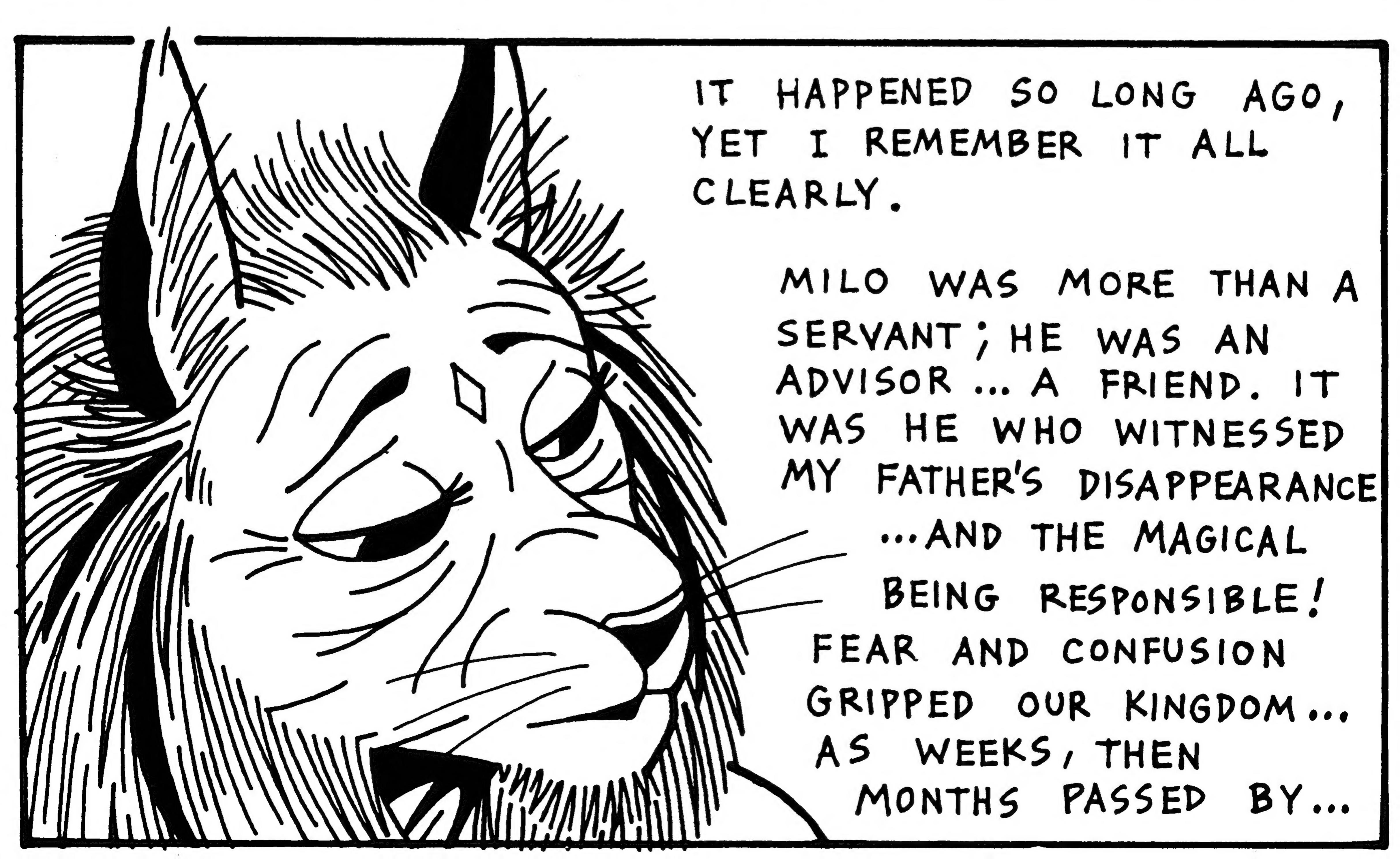






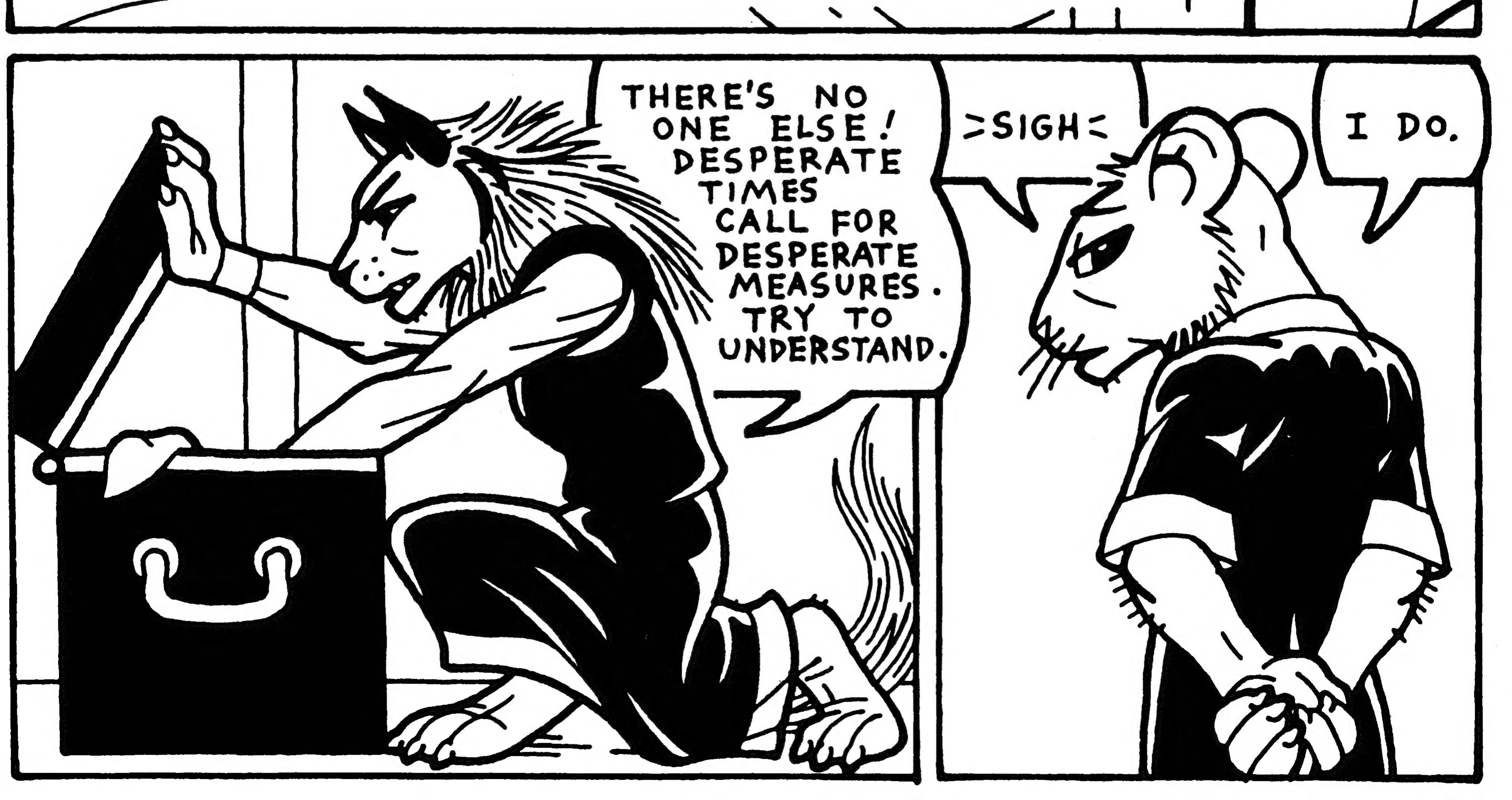


































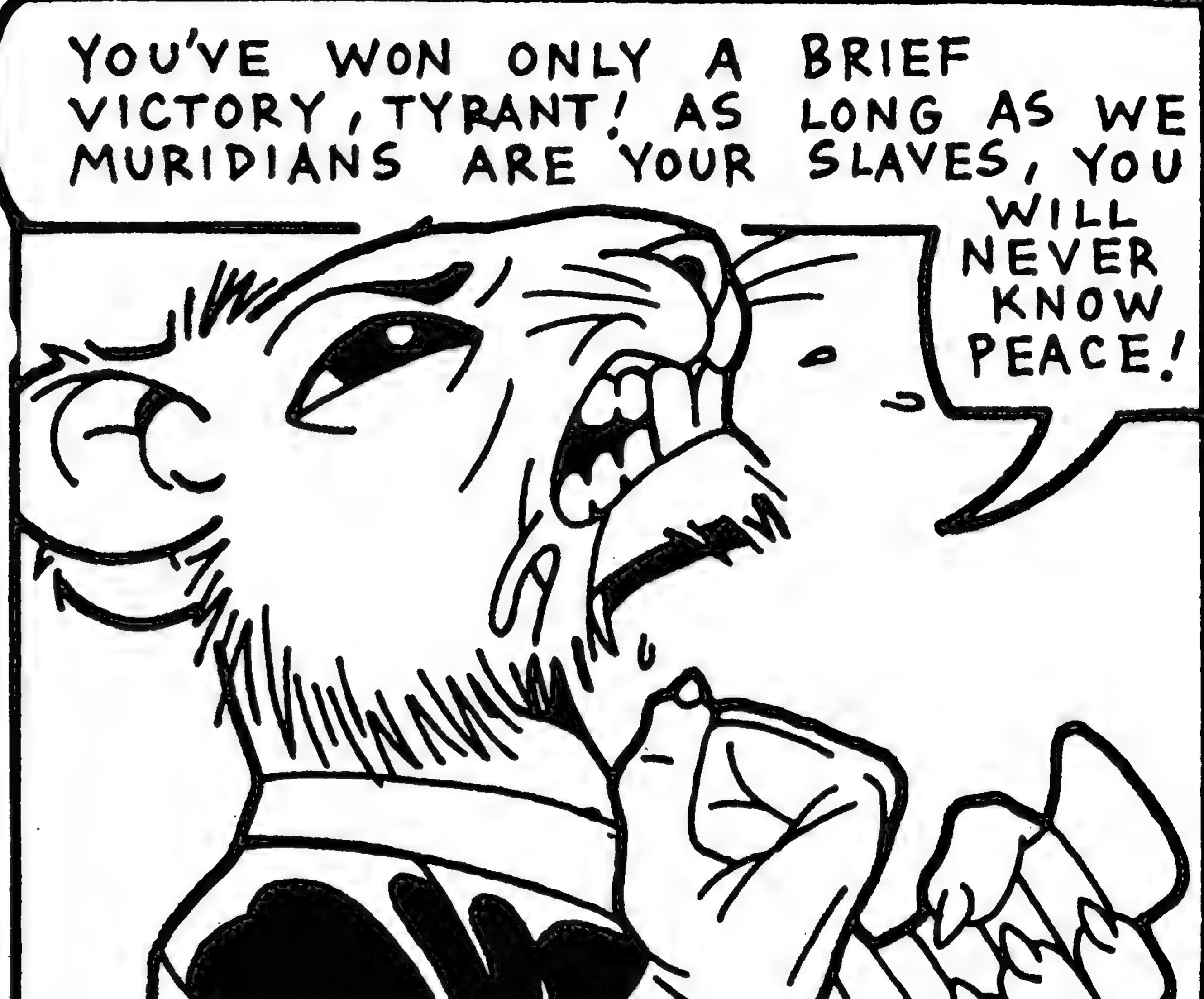




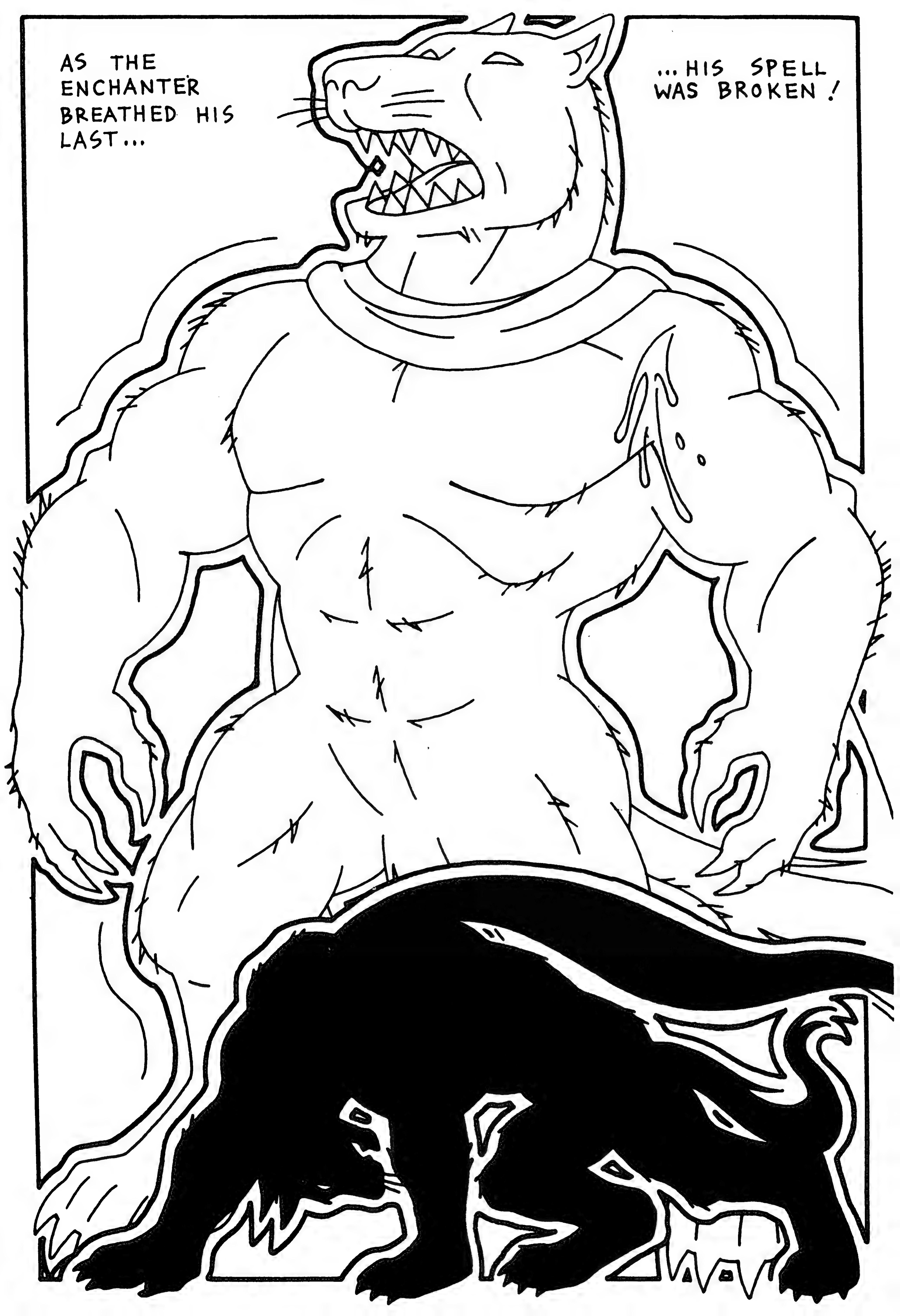












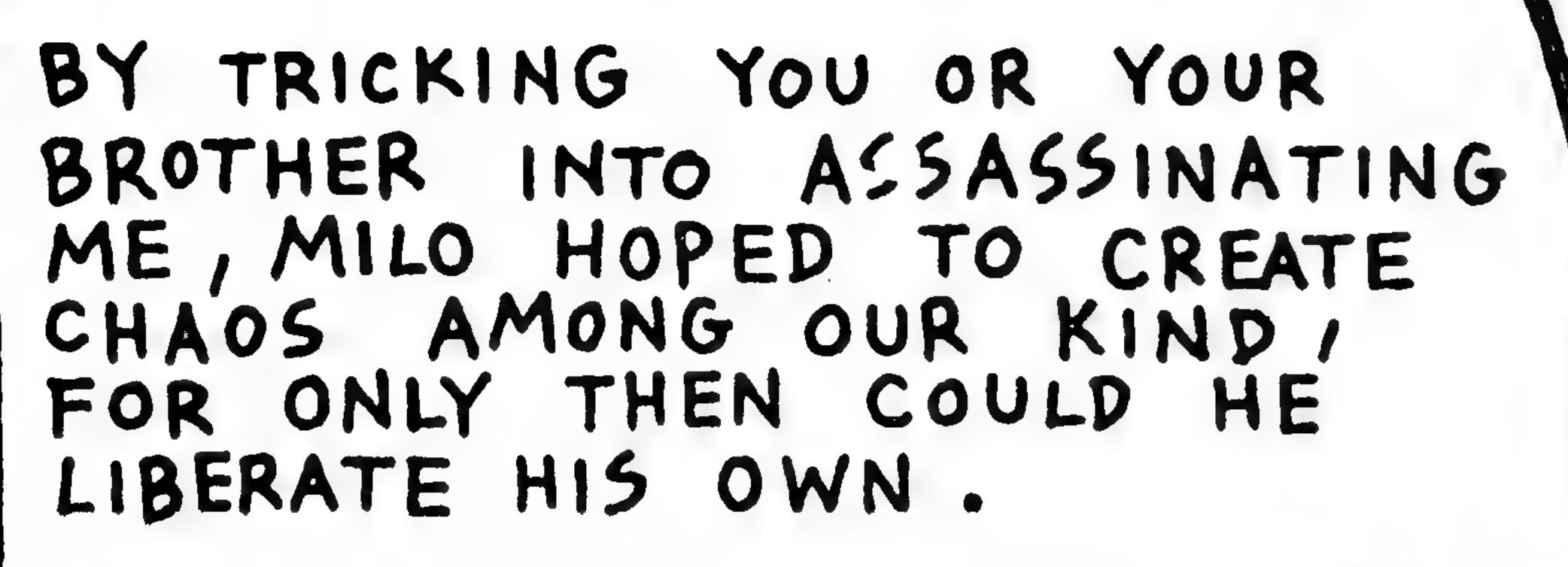












HE MIGHT HAVE SUCCEEDED, BUT MILO'S AFFECTION FOR YOU WAS HIS UNDOING.

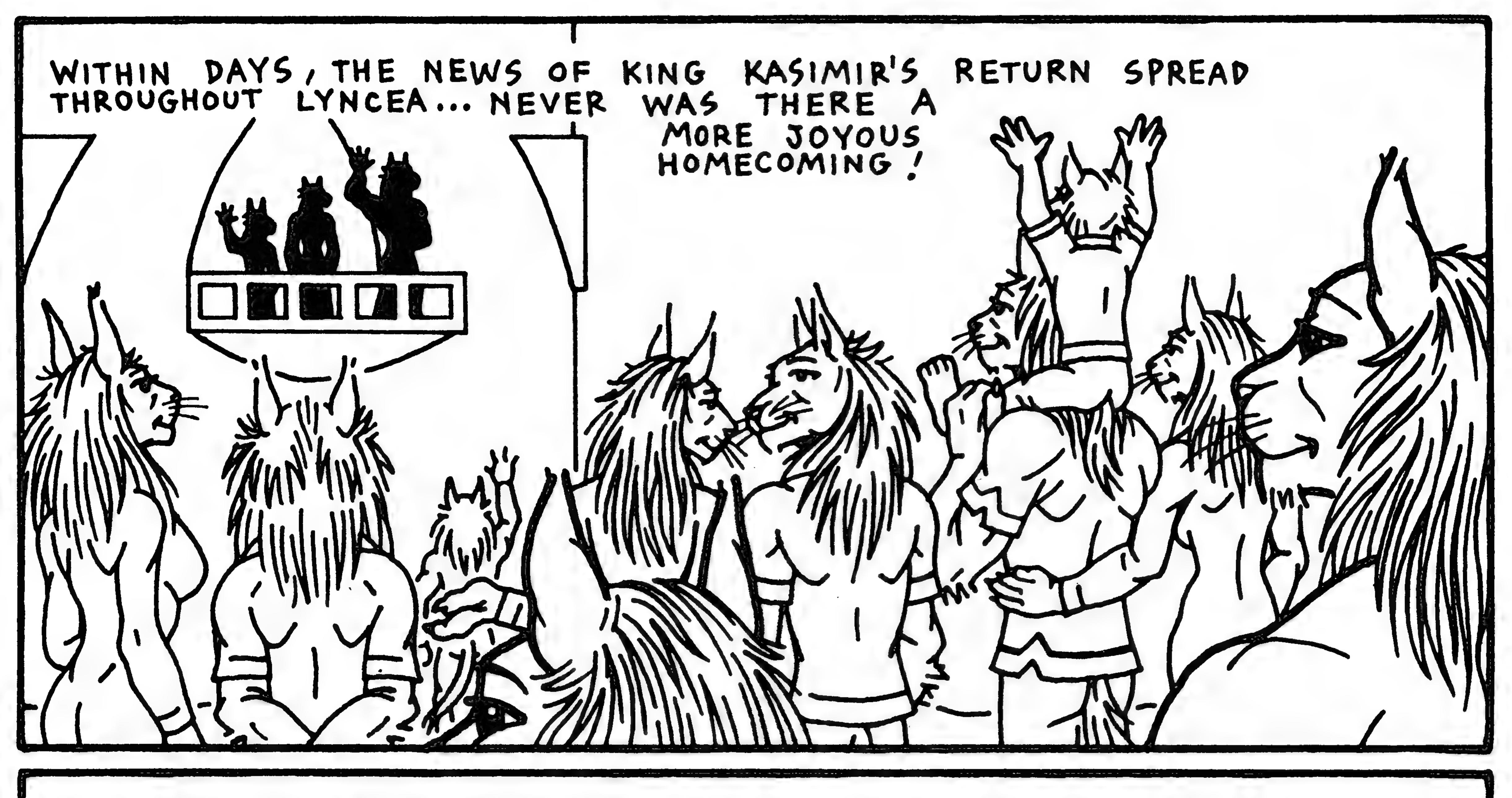


SO MANY TIMES, I WANTED TO SEE YOU ... TO LET YOU KNOW I WAS STILL ALIVE. BUT THE MONSTER I HAD BECOME WAS TOO DIFFICULT TO CONTROL.



YOUR WOUND 15 PROOF OF THAT. HOW... BAD 15 IT?



















## ANIMAL CRACKERS

Send all mail to ZU, MU Press, 5014-D Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98 Or send e-mail to e.vick1@genie.geis.com

Well, it's going to be a while before we actually receive any mail, but let's have a quick chat and get to know one another better. Have a Coke and kick up your feet.

You're holding the first issue of a brand new ZU. A couple of years ago we did a large sized one shot edition of ZU which featured the work of people like Tracy Kazaleh, Tom Staszer, and the late Deal Whitley. At that time, our schedules didn't allow for us doing anything more than a one-shot; anthologies take a forsaken length of time to prepare and make ready. Things have changed a little bit since then, however, and we are now getting underway with a new, slimmer, meaner version of ZU, and we will be out on a regular bi-monthly schedule. For how long? As long as we can manage.

Now, we've had inquiries about a few of our other books, and why they haven't been seen with any sort of regularity. Let's cover that briefly.

A lot of people have been asking us whatever became of **The Furkindred**. Well, it's still around; my duties as editor took a big chunk of time out of my schedule, and a few projects were interminably delayed. Hopefully, pressures have been eased some

what, so now I can concentrate on pushing ahead with the book. Look for some format changes when it reappears.

YES, DEAR. I'M JUST GOING TO READ YOUNG KASIM TO SLEEP.

Champion of Katara was also delayed for the same reason, but I'm slowly easing back into completing my work on that story.

Some folks have also been wondering about the non-appearance of **Wild Kingdom** these many months. Well, this is one of our more demanding titles; it takes a while to get just the right stories of just the right quality. But I think readers will be happy to know that it will return not once, not twice, but a total of four times this year, so you'll get more than your share of sexy furries in 1995.

We've been making a great effort in recent months to get our books on a regular schedule of sorts. While we may have appeared fairly quiescent over the past few months, the truth is that we've been laboring to prepare a few new titles for the new year. Some are old favorites, some are new ongoing titles, and a few are collections and miniseries. But the reason for the long pause... and, for that matter, the long pause between issues of certain titles... is that we spend a lot of time and effort insuring the quality of the material we produce. Whether it's an adven-

ture book, a romance, a super-hero epic, an alternative comic, or just a romp, we want it to be the very best that it could possibly be.

Sometimes, the search for that quality can cause us to reject many stories, or to delay publication until problems can be ironed out. Sometimes we need to wait for the right talents to become available, not wanting to settle for what we consider to be second-best. Sometimes a book has to be seriously reworked right from the beginning.

Of course, being an independent, sometimes our books suffer from low capital, and some of our creators have to work elsewhere to pick up the slack, and this causes them to push their **MU** work to the back burner for the duration. And, unfortunately, until they finish their work, we can't print the book.

You may notice that we don't print a large repertoire of titles, like most of our competitors. We prefer, at least for the present, to concentrate upon a small number of releases each month. This enables us to give each title the most complete attention that we can give to it, helping us to achieve a level of quality that we as publishers can be proud of, and that you as readers can be appreciative of.

At the moment, we've only a few books coming out on a regular schedule: **ZU**, **Rhudiprrt**, **Wild Kingdom**; soon to join the line-up will be **Fangs of K'aath**. Rhudi, however, is probably the most irregular of our regulars, and will be seen only on an issueby-issue basis. And **Mad Raccoons**, which is

a summer annual.

The Furkindred will no longer be a regular book, but a regular series of mini-series. The next one to appear will be the five-issue Ferret's Wheel. And there is one Furkindred Special being worked on as well.

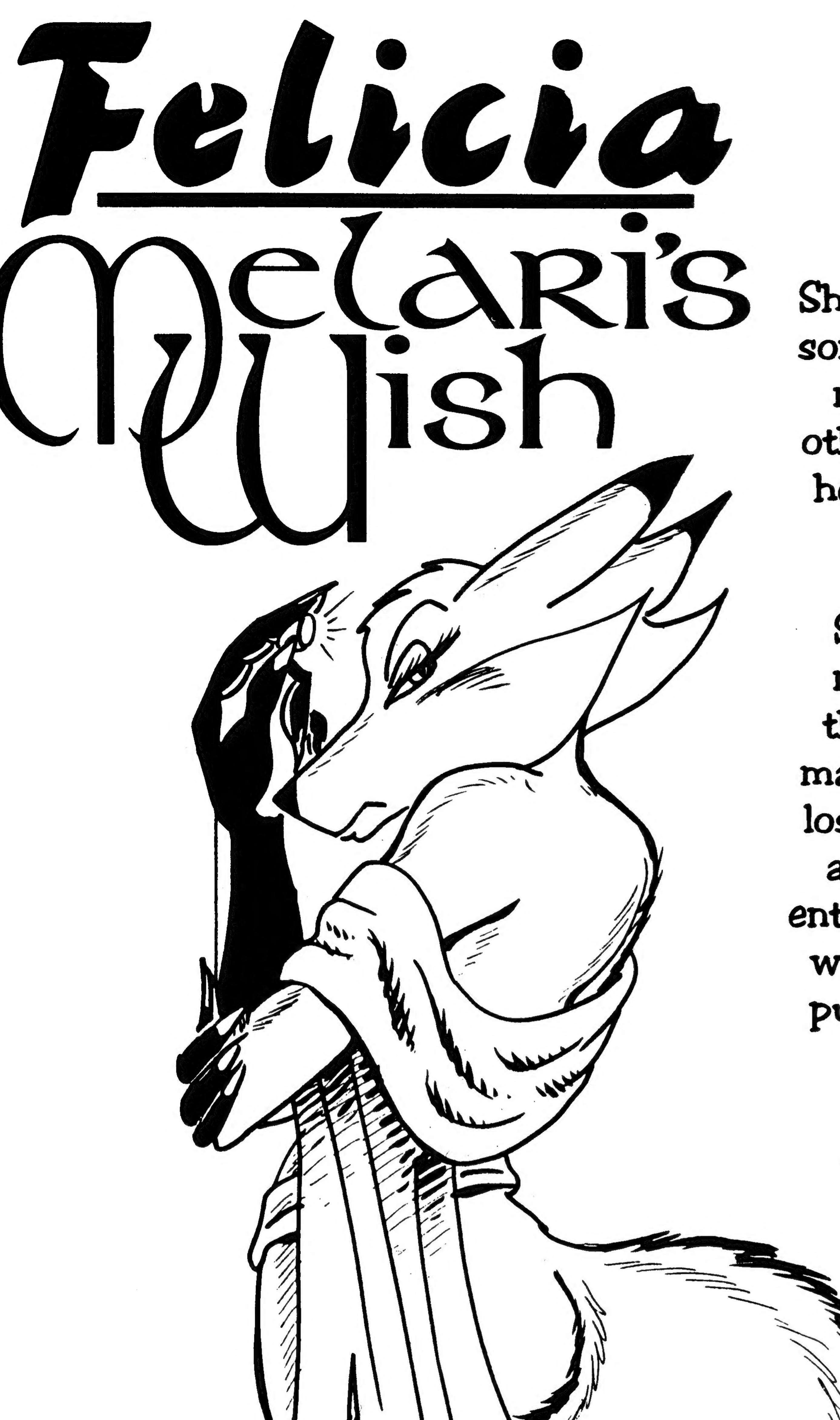
We have four mini-series in various stages of completion: Scareycat and Mousekanaut, Corus, Cyberkitties, and a Felicia mini.

Collections, at the moment, include Felicia: Melari's Wish (out now), Hugo! (next month!), and a possible Mad Raccoons collection.

And what's upcoming in **ZU**? Next issue begins a three-issue run by Croatian artist, Darko Macan, featuring his mercenary bear, Sergei; following that will be a serial by Adrian Kleinbergen concerning furry/racial inequality and airplanes. There will be stories and short pieces by talents such as Roy Pounds, Kjartan Arnorsson, Marc Schirmeister, Will Fortier, Eric Elliott, Mike McMurry, Paul Kidd, and Terry Loh.

So how did we do with our opener? What are you most looking forward to seeing in this book? Whose work would you most like to see? Do you want to see longer stories or shorter? Do you have a better suggestion for the letter column? Write us; remember, this is your book as well as ours! We do listen to suggestions, and we try to oblige the consensus. But in order for your vote to count — write!





She was arguably the most powerful sorceress in the Free Lands. She had no ties to any Order, reputable or otherwise; her loyalties were only to herself, yet they hired her to find a lost magical artifact.

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